

City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department

Fall-Winter
2013



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
parks and recreation

gardening classes

Community Gardening Program

The Community Gardening program offers a variety of gardening and orchard management classes. For more information, contact Robin Hobson at 349-3704 or hobsonr@bloomington.in.gov. Garden plot rental information is available in our Winter-Spring 2014 program guide or online after December 6 at bloomington.in.gov/parks.

Grow Organic Educator Series

Learn organic gardening from the experts and share your knowledge with the community in this organic outreach horticultural certification program, which covers soil science to seed saving and everything in between. Complete the course and volunteer hours in a number of community projects to be certified as a Grow Organic Educator or just take the course for your own enrichment. Get gardening with GOES! Textbook and comprehensive reference notebook included in fee. There are a number of optional Saturday workshops and field trips scheduled. Co-sponsored by the Center for Sustainable Living, Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, and Bloomingfoods. Instructors: A team of organic gardening experts

Thanks to the generosity of a GOES graduate, scholarship assistance is now available through the Cassell Memorial Scholarship fund. Scholarship applications must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the start of the program and are available at the Parks and Recreation office. Applicants must provide proof of income, proof of in-city residency, and a brief statement indicating why they are interested in completing the GOES series. For more information about applying for a scholarship, call 349-3702.

W 9/4-12/4 • 6-9 p.m. • Register by 8/30 (Code 56503-A)
\$125/in-city, \$145/non-city • For ages 18 yrs. and up.
Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.
Class does not meet 11/27.

Fall Gardening

Join Mother Hubbard's Cupboard's Garden Program to learn how to extend your gardening year into the fall and winter. Learn how to plan a cold season garden and to mitigate cold temperatures with weather barriers that allow for fresh vegetables when most gardens have been put to bed for the season. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods and Mother Hubbard's Cupboard. Instructor: Stephanie Solomon, Grow Organic Educator and Director of Education and Outreach at Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

Tu 9/24 • 6-7:30 p.m. • Register by 9/20 (Code 66502-A)
\$8/in-city, \$10/non-city • For all ages.
Mother Hubbard's Cupboard, 1100 W. Allen St., Ste. A

Let the Fall Planting Begin! Establishing a Perennial System

September through November is an excellent time to get perennials in the ground. The dependable rains and cooler weather of autumn create ideal conditions for transplanting perennials which will burst into life in springtime with little or no maintenance. This course focuses on planting and mulching techniques, companion plantings, establishing multi-layered landscapes, attracting beneficial insects and pollinators, and developing a perennial backbone to every garden system. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods and Hilltop Garden and Nature Center.

Instructor: Jonas Carpenter, permaculture designer and educator

Th 10/3 • 6-8 p.m. • Register by 10/1 (Code 66504-A)
\$10/in-city, \$14/non-city • For all ages.
Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.

Water, Water Everywhere

This two-session course helps you identify how much water you are using, where it's coming from, where it's going-and the possibilities for using this precious resource to support your garden, farm and home. We will examine ways to safely and economically harvest and store water and explore planting strategies to help with water control in the garden setting. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods and Hilltop Garden and Nature Center. Instructor: Rhonda Baird, permaculture designer and teacher

Tu 10/8-10/15 • 6:30-8 p.m. • Register by 10/4 (Code 66511-A)
\$18/in-city, \$22/non-city • For all ages.
Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.

Polycultures—Living in the Forest Garden

This course gives you the fundamentals for designing or creating a productive forest garden paradise (think fruit, nuts, shrubs, and other food-producing plants) around your home and property. We will cover the structure of a forest and how to replicate that structure in your landscape, including discussions of light, water, buildings, and harvesting. We will look at species to begin with and answer your questions about fruit, flowers, pollinators, pests, and more. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods and Hilltop Garden and Nature Center. Instructor: Rhonda Baird, permaculture designer and teacher

Tu 10/22 • 6:30-8:30 p.m. • Register by 10/18 (Code 66508-A)
\$10/in-city, \$14/non-city • For all ages.
Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.

Hypertufa—Building Pots and Wallhangings

Tufa is a naturally occurring porous limestone formed from calcium carbonate deposited by springs. In this hands-on class participants create hypertufa pots by mixing together different ratios of Portland cement, vermiculite and peat moss and then forming the mixture into pots. These pots will stand out as unique pieces in your house and garden while blending well with the natural landscape. The new hypertufa pots need to stay at Hilltop for at least one week to "set" before they can taken home. Remember to wear old clothes and shoes as this process can get messy. Materials are provided; however, feel free to bring your own gloves and masks. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods and Hilltop Garden and Nature Center. Instructor: Charlotte Griffin

Sa 10/26 • 1-4 p.m. • Register by 10/23 (Code 66503-A)
\$20/in-city, \$24/non-city • For all ages.
Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.

Outdoor Rooms for Regeneration

Love to spend time outside? Learn why an outdoor kitchen or sleeping area might be just the right addition to your yard and garden to increase your living space and enhance your quality of life. We will look at how these types of structures can improve energy efficiency in your home, provide you with space to enjoy your garden and preserve its fruits. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods and Hilltop Garden and Nature Center. Instructor: Rhonda Baird, permaculture designer and teacher

Tu 11/5 • 6:30-8:30 p.m. • Register by 11/1 (Code 66506-A)
\$10/in-city, \$14/non-city • For all ages.
Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.

Bloomington Community Orchard Classes

Instructors: Ross Gay and H. Michael Simmons, orchard educators
Participants are notified if use of rain date is necessary.
Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods, the Bloomington Community Orchard, and the Free University of Monroe County.

\$8/in-city, \$10/non-city
Price is per class.
For all ages.



Organic Sprays for the Home Orchard

Although one of the many advantages of organic fruit production is the elimination of toxic pesticide sprays, there are a number of safe, organic sprays that can enhance the health and productivity of the home orchard. Learn how to use these sprays effectively in this informative class that includes helpful demonstrations. The class covers organic sprays, spraying techniques, equipment, and spray schedules for home fruit production. Rain date is 9/21.

Sa 9/14 • 2–4 p.m. Register by 9/11 (Code 66505-A)
Bloomington Community Orchard, South Highland, opposite YMCA

The Orchard as an Ecosystem

Most commonly planted fruit trees are not native to North America, but by creating and maintaining an ecosystem that includes fruit trees, supporting orchard floor plants, beneficial insects, and an active soil food web, we can enjoy a healthy and productive orchard. The class covers the elements of an effective orchard ecosystem and how to install and maintain one. Rain date is 10/12.

Sa 10/5 • Register by 10/2 (Code 66510-A)
Bloomington Community Orchard, South Highland, opposite YMCA

Start with the Soil—Preparation for Successful Fruit Production

Fruit trees represent a long-term investment of time, money, and growing space; therefore, it makes sense to provide growing conditions that will ensure their success and optimal productivity. Fruit trees require well-drained soils with a high content of organic matter, a balance of nutrients, and a fungal dominant soil food web. The class covers soil evaluation, preparation, amendment, and maintenance, with helpful demonstrations. Rain date is 11/9.

Sa 11/2 • Register by 10/30 (Code 66509-A)
Bloomington Community Orchard, South Highland, opposite YMCA

Planning Home Fruit Plantings

Winter offers the optimal time to plan for ordering and planting fruiting trees and shrubs. This class provides guidance in deciding which fruits to grow, which cultivars to order, sources for those cultivars, and design considerations for the home orchard. The class provides all you need to know to get started growing delicious and nutritious fruits at home. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods, the Bloomington Community Orchard, and Hilltop Garden and Nature Center.

Sat 12/7 • 2–4 p.m. • Register by 12/4 (Code 66507-A)
\$10/in-city, \$14/non-city • For all ages.
Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.



For more information, contact Robin Hobson at 349-3704 or e-mail hobsonr@bloomington.in.gov. Register online at bloomington.in.gov/parks.

HOMEGROWN INDIANA FARM TOUR



Spend a Sunday getting closer to your food.

Sunday, September 22 • 1–8 p.m.
\$25 • For all ages.
Bus departs City Hall at 1:45 p.m.
Register by 9/17 (Code 66501-A)

The fall Homegrown Indiana Farm Tour takes you to Amish country in Daviess county where you'll visit two farms with an orchard, dairy, produce operation, and wagon-making shop. On the farms you'll learn about raising tree fruit in southern Indiana, watch cows being milked, enjoy a horse-drawn wagon ride and experience life at a pace that is tuned to the seasons. The evening concludes with a simple meal of seasonal soup, home-baked bread, and cookies.

Co-sponsored by:



Special thanks to Muddy Fork Farm and:



Detailed information is available at bloomington.in.gov/farmersmarket or by contacting Marcia Veldman at 349-3738 or veldmanm@bloomington.in.gov.

Crestmont Community Garden

Community Gardening and local food pantry Mother Hubbard's Cupboard continue an alternative method of community gardening at the Crestmont Garden. Mother Hubbard's Cupboard coordinates a collaborative garden in which all gardeners at this site garden the entire space together. The harvest is shared by gardeners and Crestmont community members. Surplus harvests are distributed through the food pantry. For more information on how to participate, call 355-6843 or e-mail mhc@mhcfoodpantry.org.



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